

## **CARP Co-ordinator's Report September 2008**

### **Participants**

There are 67 people on the methadone clinic. That leaves 8 places of our quota to be filled.

An unusual trend has emerged in that three relatively old people have contacted us for help with their heroin problem in the recent past. Two males - a 49 and a 40 year old – and one 33 year old female. We also had a 23 year old male looking for help. His first drug of use was cocaine and took heroin to come down off it.

We have a waiting list for the first time in some months – four people waiting. As I write this report the HSE have offered two places to those on our waiting list.

Requests and attendances for addiction and family therapy are up as per usual in September.

### **Finance**

All our grants are up to date.

We received €10K from the National Lottery for equipping the Family Therapy Room. The HSE have given us the balance of our capital funding €30K.

### **Youth/Outreach worker**

We interviewed 8 people for this position and are in the process of finalising the person we will offer it to.

### **Cocaine**

Numbers presenting are now close to the 100 mark and it is more than we had in 2007. The Friday evening service is the busiest and has up to 12 clients.

We are in the process of taking on an outreach worker for this project on a CE scheme. Interviews are next Monday.

The National Drug Strategy Team and the Drug Strategy Team have informed us that we are being allocated €140K. This means we can get dedicated employed staff to run the project into the future.

The greatest number of referrals to the project come through the Probation Service.

**Needle Exchange**

Numbers continue to increase. Two hundred and four exchanges were given in the month of August (121 in 2007). The total for the year to end of August 2008 is 1629 (881 in 2007).

The Tallaght Drugs Task Force is providing training in NE and we will get the rest of our staff trained to provide the service.

**Premises**

We have been advised by the Killinarden Community Council that we should look for a lease from South Dublin County Council rather than a Management License.

This year we have had very few incidents of vandalism to our glass windows but one night we have two of them shattered 'allegedly' by the pellet guns people bring home from Spain. We replaced the windows with Perspex and will continue the process as, if, further windows get broken.

We had a leak in the lean-to roof during the recent heavy rainfall and some of our clients are going to look at it. The direction of the rain was one we don't normally experience.

**Homeless**

There was one person using the homeless facilities since the last report.

**Rehabilitation/Slánú**

The process of taking on new people has begun and some are to start in the near future. One of our participants, whom FÁS requested that we take on, has acquired employment with Simon.

We are still struggling with Quality Assurance and have been back and forward seeking clarification. A staff member successfully attended a FETAC Assessment course.

**Addiction Studies**

Over 40 people presented for interview for this year's course run in the Institute of Technology Tallaght. We offered 30 places and the first session took place last night. It will run for 25 weeks and will finish around Easter 2009.

We have applied for a FETAC level 4 award for this course but we have been told they aren't making any new awards at this level this year.